



U.S. Department of Justice

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PRESS RELEASE

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Man Sentenced to More Than 15 Years in Prison For Sexual Abuse and Malicious Disfigurement - Defendant Convicted By Jury In Domestic Violence Case -

WASHINGTON - Carlos Escalante, 31, was sentenced today to 15 years and eight months in prison on charges stemming from a series of violent sexual assaults that were prosecuted in a domestic violence case, U.S. Attorney Ronald C. Machen Jr. announced.

Escalante was found guilty in April 2010 by a jury in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia of charges of first degree sexual abuse and first degree sexual abuse while armed, as well as multiple counts of threatening the victim, malicious disfigurement while armed, and violations of court orders. He was sentenced today by the Honorable Judge Gerald I. Fisher.

According to the government's evidence, during 2008 and 2009, Escalante repeatedly assaulted, threatened and sexually abused the victim, with whom he was living in Washington, D.C. He often threatened to kill her if she reported the abuse or sought help.

He was particularly brutal on days that had special meaning to her – such as her birthday, her son's birthday, and days of celebration in her native Mexico.

Among other crimes, Escalante took the victim to Rock Creek Park on her birthday, held a knife to her neck, and raped her. On the birthday of the victim's son, who lived in Mexico, Escalante held her down, used a razor blade to carve his initial into her chest, and raped her.

In May 2009, the victim applied for a Civil Protection Order. Escalante was arrested in June 2009, following an incident in which he entered the group home where the victim was living.

In announcing the sentence, U.S. Attorney Machen praised the work of MPD Detectives Maria Flores and Leon Epps, Officers Michael Thomas, Julius Smith, Lacarha Garrett, Daniel

Baez, and Enrique Valdes. He also praised the efforts of those who worked on the case from the U.S. Attorney's Office, including Investigator John Marsh, Paralegal Eugena Johnson, Legal Assistant Nicole Lee and Litigation Support Specialist Lief Hickling. U.S. Attorney Machen acknowledged the assistance provided by Victim Advocate Melissa Milam who worked closely over a long period of time with the victim in this very difficult case. Finally, he commended Assistant U.S. Attorney Ari Redbord, who investigated and prosecuted the case.

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